

I L P E S



NACIONES UNIDAS



International Seminar: The Sustainable Development Goals and Building Futures for Latin America and the Caribbean

Third Planning for Development Sessions

Santiago, Chile, 18 and 19 May 2016

Context

The world and Latin America and the Caribbean are going through a period of slow growth, high uncertainty and expectations that largely align with the continuation of this trend for several years. Governments in the region are looking for ways to maintain reasonable growth rates of output, investment and employment, so as to shield and sustain social achievements and care for the environment. But government priorities generated by this adverse situation should not conspire against long-term policies that call the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, the more ambitious the world has agreed in decades and that brings us to strategically plan the construction of the future.

The long-term dimension is usually absent in the policies and strategies of governments, so ECLAC seeks to place state policies and planning for sustainable development high on the region's agenda. This means to address the urgency and the challenges posed by the situation, but without losing sight of the long-term horizon.

The challenge necessarily involves the identification and analysis of the trade-offs arising from this dual purpose of combining management of the urgent with the strategic governance of the transcendent; it is also about finding -or perhaps provoke- positive externalities, complementarities (trade-ins) and virtuous combinations between the policies of short, medium and long term.

Articulate the short, medium and long term dimensions is a considerable challenge that the region has not wanted or has not known how to face. Today, the occasion is especially conducive to face with a higher probability of success than in the past thanks to the *Agenda 2030* that precisely targets medium and long term goals and objectives with a focus on the integrity of development.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides an opportunity to link development priorities of each nation with those derived from the global agenda. There is a unique opportunity in the region to dare to till the shared future we all want, using the orientation guide and mandate of 2030 Agenda.

The Seminar

This background frames the International Seminar *The Sustainable Development Goals and Building Futures for Latin America and the Caribbean*, organized by ECLAC to be held on 18 and 19 May 2016 at its headquarters in Santiago, Chile. The seminar proposes the creation of a space for reflection on the challenges of the future construction raised by the Sustainable Development Goals. It addresses the conditions of institutional capacity building for future exploration and the translation of this knowledge into public policy and planning with appropriate coordination in handling the challenges of short, medium and long term. It also seeks to encourage a dialogue between specialists from the region and other continents and regions, such as Asia, Europe and North America.

The International Seminar will be held during the mornings of 18 and 19 May and will be structured in a keynote presentation by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC and four working sessions, as described below (for information on the schedules consult the attached program).

The first part of the Seminar will be held the morning of Wednesday 18. The inaugural conference, based on the sustainable development goals, presents the proposals of ECLAC about the specific conditions and challenges of the Latin American-Caribbean development, formulated through the documents that make up the Trilogy of Equality: Time for Equality (2010), Structural Change for Equality (2012), and Pacts for Equality (2014). The presentation will advance proposals to meet the challenges of the 2030 Agenda in the region, just prior to the XXVI ECLAC Period of Sessions week, in which the Commission will present its reflections on the

future development of the region facing the 2030 Agenda (link: <http://www.cepal.org/es/noticias/cepal-presentara-mexico-su-reflexion-desarrollo-futuro-america-latina-caribe-cara-la-agenda>).

Then in Session 1, a space for knowledge and debate of different future exercises conducted for the region by 2030, from very different institutional frameworks opens. In Session 2 experiences in capacity building and prospective territorial thinking in Latin America and the Caribbean will be reviewed.

Thursday 19 session will open with the presentation of the results of the exercise carried out by ILPES-ECLAC about the prospects of closing development gaps by 2030, advance through two expert surveys in September 2015 and April 2016, called consultations on the climate of equality in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2030. Later that morning experiences of two large orders will be addressed. In Session 3 a global reflection on the challenges, constraints and opportunities for capacity building of thought and future construction is done. Finally, in Session 4 experiences of thought and future construction carried out from political authorities, or from think tanks will be observed. Latin American experience in the field will also be addressed.

The Third Planning for Development Sessions

In the afternoons of 18 and 19 May the *Third Planning for Development Sessions* will be held, which calls for presentations of researchers, teachers, experts and public officials with experience and knowledge in managing processes, projects and programs in the discipline of Foresight studies of varied fields of development and corners of the geography of Latin America and the Caribbean.

About 150 paper abstracts were received and 40 were selected and will be presented by their authors in the III Sessions. This event is intended to help consolidate a network of foresight studies in the region, with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a reference. Of those forty papers, a selection of the best will be collected and compiled in a digital publication edited by ILPES.

Most of these papers are linked to institutional processes of medium and long term which have had or may have a practical application through projects, processes or foresight programs and policies for development.

The papers to be presented cover very broad topics, such as prospective and development planning; foresight and governance; long-term visions and social dialogue; Prospective and construction of country visions; techniques and approaches of scenario planning; foresight and technology surveillance; strategic intelligence; Geopolitical and territorial foresight studies; and foresight and structural change.

This is the third call of this type made by ILPES after the conclusion of the previous editions of the Sessions, in 2013 and 2014.

To participate in this event, we invite you to register completing the registration form available through the following link: <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/RegistroSeminario>

For more information, please contact:

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